

SEAFORTH PAC GENERAL MEETING

DRAFT

OCTOBER 17, 2012

In Attendance: Rhylin Baillie, MaryAnn Giardini, Shannon Derksen, Jen Mezei, Hark Sandhu, Sandra Mankoo, Jennifer Duinkerke, Kirsten Graham, Annie Hobson, Siva Ramesh, Michelle Lee, Patricia Fula, Tammy Inglis, Wendell Hiltz (principal).

Regrets: Zena Kwan, Cheryl Tong

Meeting called to order at 7:06 pm

PAC BUSINESS – Rhylin Bailie Chairperson

- Handouts provided at this meeting: meeting agenda, financial summary
- Approval of September minutes – Siva Ramesh firsts, Cheryl seconds, minutes approved.
- Donations down this year, have about \$5,890 to date. Second donation request will go out.
- PAC could offer to put money towards the PC lab as an act of good faith to stimulate more donations. Question/concern: would we short ourselves this way? We probably won't raise as much with a family social as we would with a parent social. Answer: in all likelihood we'll be okay as we often end up with a surplus at the end of the year, but decided not to offer PAC funds at this point. Will see how we do after second donation request.

Upcoming PAC Events

- *Pub night (Annie Hobson and others)* – Discussion about where to hold pub night. Settled on Nov. 24th at the Hop and Vine because Saturday evening was the preference. Others were available during the week, or earlier in the day. The Hop and Vine was recommended by parents as it is in a good neighbourhood and is a large venue. If we held the night at a pub there would probably be a minimum number of tickets (25-50 minimum; 100/125 maximum). Question: how much money do we expect to fund raise? Answer: not sure at this point. Other schools (Confederation Park) made about \$8000 at a pub night WITH a silent auction. We don't have time to solicit donations, plus want to use class baskets for social in February. Will do a 50-50 to make money: \$2/1 ticket, \$5/3, \$10 for arms length. Could do a toonie toss and a booze basket raffle (include things like tickets to Grouse Mountain?) – can put

a request in PAC newsletter and ask for small raffle items. PAC can buy raffle items too – ex) gas card. Pub Night committee will be selling tickets, advertising through a notice sent home with students just like carnival. The plan is to pick one or two days a week and sell pub night tickets at the school –at drop off and pick up times. **ACTION ITEM: Shannon to apply for gaming license.**

SAFE SCHOOL COMMITTEE- MaryAnn Giardini

- This committee focuses on citizenship, compassion, kindness, awareness of community, education on bullying issues
- We are having our first meeting on Oct. 10 to brainstorm
- Discussions at this meeting produced these ideas:
 - Cultural pot-luck
 - Flags of the world – teachers
 - Tell us about your family send home form
 - World connected to Seaforth Family tree
 - Paper/tiles/wooden pink shirts – teachers had idea to replace stream of dreams fish that are currently attached to the school fence
 - Family show case night
 - Diversity video (like Michael Jackson's Black and White video)
- **ACTION ITEM – Wendell to propose this to teachers (email from Rhylin re: Diversity month).**
- Thank you to Mrs. Mollica and Mr. Hiltz for doing the peer mediator program. We are very excited to see this going ahead.
- We are planning to have a 'diversity-themed social'. In similar fashion, Burnaby Mountain high school is having a Diversity Dinner in February – tickets by donation.
- We are also hoping to do a school-wide 'tolerance-themed' art project inspired by two local art projects – 1) young boy in Coquitlam helped his school create wooden pink shirts and displayed them on the school's chain link fence. He got a company to sponsor the cost, his dad cut out all the shirts and the kids decorated and affixed to the school fence. Does anyone have ideas where people would get little shirts cut out? We could probably get a sponsor. 2) Boy scout who needed his eagle badge created a 'wall of tolerance' – kids at his school decorated white tiles and affixed them to an outside wall of the middle school. We could do this using material that has a permanent nature – could be a new Seaforth fence display.
- Family night celebration is also planned – we want to bring in some entertainment – if anyone has ideas please let MaryAnn know. If they have connections with restaurants let us know too.
- The committee is also interested in community building/safe social networks – for example, could post news links on how to keep your kids safe on the PAC website – safe school links

Principal's REPORT - Wendell Hiltz

Our current enrolment as of October 12th is attached. We have had a few transfers out but a few students have transferred in as well. Enrolment as of the end of September was 488. We have had many calls inquiring about Kindergarten for the 2013 – 2014 school year already. This is much earlier than in previous years.

CLASS ENROLLMENT Date: 12 October 2012

| DIV | TEACHER | K | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | TOTALS |
|-----|----------------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|--------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|------------|
| 1 | Mrs. D. Moore | | | | | | | | 27 | 27 |
| 2 | Mr. G. Lapthorne | | | | | | | 16 | 11 | 27 |
| 3 | M G. Lucarelli | | | | | | | 12 | 11 | 23 |
| 4 | Mme T. Whitney | | | | | | | 11 | 12 | 23 |
| 5 | Mrs. T. Mollica | | | | | | 12 | 16 | | 28 |
| 6 | Mrs. T. Bisceglia | | | | | | 16 | 11 | | 27 |
| 7 | Mrs. J. Boulanger | | | | | 10 | 18 | | | 28 |
| 8 | M. George March | | | | | 5 | 23 | | | 28 |
| 9 | Mrs. E. Bastone | | | | | 28 | | | | 28 |
| 10 | Mme A. L. Richter | | | | 8 | 14 | | | | 22 |
| 11 | Mrs. L. Glavas/ Ms. C. Lundie | | | 8 | 16 | | | | | 24 |
| 12 | Mrs. L. Hanson | | | 8 | 14 | | | | | 22 |
| 13 | Mlle R. Gayton | | | 9 | 12 | | | | | 21 |
| 14 | Mrs. K. Kaga | | | 22 | | | | | | 22 |
| 15 | Mme L. Sharples | | 13 | 8 | | | | | | 21 |
| 16 | Mlle S. Papapanagiotou | | 13 | 8 | | | | | | 21 |
| 17 | Ms. K. Robson | | 17 | | | | | | | 17 |
| 18 | Ms. P. Graham | | 17 | | | | | | | 17 |
| 19 | Ms. P. Tazumi | 21 | | | | | | | | 21 |
| 20 | Mrs. S. Hope | 18 | | | | | | | | 18 |
| 21 | Mme M. Gillingham | 22 | | | | | | | | 22 |
| | FR.IMM TOTALS | 22 | 26 | 25 | 20 | 19 | 23 | 23 | 23 | 181 |
| | ENG. TOTALS | 39 | 34 | 38 | 30 | 38 | 46 | 43 | 38 | 306 |
| | | | | | | TOTAL | | | | 487 |

- We are hoping that email information will be updated by the end of the month so that newsletters will be sent electronically from November on. We have changed the format in which we update the school calendar. We will no longer be sending a school calendar home with every newsletter. Instead, the Calendar Icon on the Seaforth Homepage will be updated and parents can check that for the latest information. It is also accessible from the Calendars

Menu Bar on the left hand side of the Homepage. [Calendars](#)

- Grade six students have had their first immunizations earlier this week.
- Photo proofs have been distributed to parents and orders are starting to come in. Retakes happen on November 2, 2012. Please DO NOT submit an order if you plan to have re-takes done on that day.
- Parent participation at Intake Meetings was excellent. 98.5% of parents attended our Intake Meetings with teachers. These meetings are crucial in sharing valuable information between teacher and parent in order to meet student need better. Thanks to all parents who attended.
- Our Terry Fox Run was another huge success and our students did a great job leading our Assembly before the run/walk in which all our students and staff participated. Our school raised \$1109.61. Well done École Seaforth Community!!
- Peer Mediator Training is happening next week. We will be selecting 20 students from the 26 applications that we received. Ms. Mollica and I will be selecting the participants who will be attending the training. Students will be notified on Monday whether or not they have been selected. Ms. Mollica will be the teacher sponsor and I will work with her as I ran the program at my last school.
- Mr. March will be running the annual Rotary 'Coats for Kids' Program this year. Information will come out in the newsletter next week and donations will be accepted for the month of November. He has developed a neat theme that fits in with our school-wide focus on service to others and kindness. Watch the newsletter for details.
- I have been in contact with our District Learning Support Teacher regarding a presentation on ways for parents to support your child with school work. She was not available for this meeting but would be available for the November meeting. Kaori Ohashi will be in touch with me prior to the November PAC meeting with details on what we would like her to present about, the number of people to expect, etc. I think we should promote this presentation in order to attract more parents that night. I will ask her to prepare something to send home early in November to 'advertise' the workshop for parents so that interested parents are able to choose if they would like to attend.
- Earthquake Committee – We need a group of volunteers to do an inventory on what is in the Earthquake Bin. I am working on gathering information from the District as to what recommendations are in place for what a school our size should have. The inventory needs to be completed and the guideline followed so that we are ready to go with a drill for the Spring. A group of

volunteers can coordinate the inventory and the school can provide them with the list of recommended items based on school size.

Upcoming Events:

- ProD Day on October 19th and November 19th
- Our Great Pumpkin Walk and Halloween Festivities are coming up on the 31st as well. Mrs. Moore and the grade 7's have been hard at work on the preparations. Thanks to them and Mr. Lapthorne, the school is well decorated for the big day as well.
- Remembrance Day Assembly on November 9th
- Remembrance Day Holiday on Monday, November 12th
- First Young People's Concert the week of November 26th

- iPads ordered 2 weeks ago
- Photo re-take day=Nov.2nd
- Selection of the 20 students for the peer mediator program will be based on student's self-evaluation and conversations with students. For next year it would be great for notification on this program to go out to parents so they can discuss the pros and cons with their kids.
- Environmental theme for Spirit Day – teachers supported this as it would help bring new sessions to the day and address student concerns regarding having the same sessions again and again. **ACTION ITEM (Wendell) - Need to check with teachers if they are ok with Spirit Day being on Earth Day, which is a Monday**
- Feedback from teachers regarding the Safe School Committee's planned activities:
 - Yes to the presentations/speakers proposed by the safe school committee with one caveat: for the talks to be more focussed on the content and less on being entertaining. RespectEd is a well-respected program that the teachers support. Girl Talk is appropriate and timely – teachers support. Anti-bullying talks – yes support but again less entertaining and more content. Proposed dates from the speakers/committees and then give to Wendell and he will approach teachers.
 - Kindness month – teachers pointed out that we do a lot of things that are focussed on kindness already. For example: coats for kids, food drive, virtues program, roots of empathy program etc. Teachers had the idea for a Kindness Corner in the newsletter – one of the teachers offered to co-ordinate submissions that showcase the citizenship work that our students do every year all throughout the year. Even taking photos of the work being done and putting those in the newsletter. Note that this is the 1st year we are celebrating Family Day this upcoming February. Teachers are concerned about doing too much in February because this month has one stat holiday and 2 pro-D days. They support a family show case night. Also important to take part in

Pink Shirt Day. Teachers agreed to have a bulletin board on display for this family night.

- Letter was created on Traffic Safety; Board office approved. We have it to distribute now. Other ideas: translate this letter, make it look like a ticket, add a map showing no parking zones and route to Hunter St, having escorts take kids from the classroom to their parents cars, poster contest for kids to create art depicting desired traffic behaviour. What are other schools doing? One school was putting cones around the car of people parked in no parking zones.

HOT LUNCH

- First hot lunch of 2012/2013 went very well
- Extension of the deadline to order the hot lunches was very good idea
- Orders are probably comparable between this year and last (despite online ordering option this year). About 15 didn't want to or couldn't pay online
- A few glitches – some people are getting reminder email when not ordering and some people not getting email reminder when they ordered – Munch a Lunch says this is impossible, asks that we keep track of parents who are experiencing this problem so they can investigate
- Kids are still showing up without hot lunch because parents think they ordered.
- Asking parents to write the hot lunches they ordered on their kids' agenda
- Parents can print out what they order and give to kids as well
- We will send home helpful hints home in the newsletter to remind parents about the hot lunch process, what to do if they're confused, etc.
- Thank you to the 27 grade 7 kids that helped deliver lunches!

CPF COMMITTEE – Cynthia

- Restarted the Burnaby CPF chapter!
- Sperling and Seaforth are meeting – need to find out if other schools will join us
- Have applied for a couple of grants – so teachers can have a theatre performance and after school events held at the school or in a community venue
- Note that if the CPF committee ever wants to do a speaker focussed on a French immersion topic – we can host that here and open it to other schools in District
- Dawn and Cynthia are going to the North Van talk (free) – parent survival guide – how to help your child in French Immersion. We could run that same talk here or at Sperling.
- Committee has emailed teacher running that. CPF Madame Sharples – touch base with her for other ideas.

- This committee welcomes other parents to join, especially in the intermediate grades as everyone on the committee has kids in grade 2 or younger.
- Note if the CPF committee writes a grant proposal– DPAC can help with the cost

DPAC REPORT – MaryAnn Giardini/Jen Mezei

- Provides feedback from district to the local PAC on new initiatives
- DPAC is a liaison between PAC and the District
- Ministry initiatives get vetted at DPAC
- PAC 101, Treasurers, SPC workshops
- Friends for Life <http://www.friendsinfo.net/ca.htm> is a school-based anxiety prevention program. They do work with kids in all grades and do parent presentations. Usually the parent talk is to support kids doing the program in class. The program explores what anxiety is and how to deal with it. Presentations will support what is being done in classroom – enabling kids and parents practice certain things, practice it at home, hands-on.
- MindUP presentation coming – this approach is used in our District – all about self-regulation strategies. The idea behind this is that kids can only learn when they are in a certain frame of mind – can be over excited or under excited – self-regulation helps kids be a level that they can learn at. Calming strategies when you are over excited and how to get them awake and alert when they are not. Goal is to help your child learn – a kid who is not engaged is not listening, they may be capable but....
- There is another talk coming on 'Parents as Coaches' – Feb. 2013. Target audience: parents of grade 7 kids – or a little bit older – Cap college rep does this talk it is a 2 night session (free -DPAC gets grant from district to put on). This talk will suggest how to guide children to find what they are interested in and how they can sell themselves in the world today.
- Also upcoming is a talk on Internet safety – timely! This talk will have a focus on social media – introduction to safety settings of the social media programs. These are the reasons why we need to do these things as there are risks with our kids joining these programs. Many grade 6 and 7's already have Facebook pages – so this talk is geared more towards parents of tweens. Another topic that may be of interest is to understand how an 'internet predator' could find your child. What do people do – how do they find kids that are vulnerable – knowing this is how we keep our kids safe. There is babysitting provided.

PLAYGROUND COMMITTEE

- Will call a meeting
- Have 7 volunteers!

- Tim Miller with the District knows who the preferred suppliers are – **ACTION ITEM – Wendell to ask (Habitat is one).**
- The purpose of the committee is to prepare a contingency plan because if one of our pieces of playground breaks the District will not repair it because it's not longer up to code. Still functional and safe, but not up to code.
- Idea: add little pieces not one big piece so if one breaks we have back ups.
- What is the time line – we should start saving and building a plan because we never know when we'll have to replace it

TREASURER'S REPORT – Jennifer Duinkerke & Hark Sandhu

- A copy of the report was distributed at the meeting. A copy is available (upon request) to those that could not attend the meeting.
- Teachers to submit their receipts for up to \$4000 dollars to PAC (wish list)
- Excess surplus beyond what we estimated at year-end: \$4323 dollars
- \$621 dollars returning from Quebec: they overestimated the cost per child and have kindly returned the grant that PAC gave them
- How can we stimulate more donations? Send a second notice dedicated to donations, mention purchase of iPads so parents can see we're making progress
- Suggestion to make it x/child (total of capital exp/total kids) next year
- Set up online donation account. This will be for next year.
- Looking at adding credit card option to the online payment method.

SPIRIT DAY – Gail Su

- Need to confirm the date
- In the past we had many presenters that could only accommodate 10-15 kids per. Classes will be a lot bigger this year.
- Brainstorming session needed as to what speakers/sessions we want to recruit/plan for the new Environmental Themed spirit day

NEW BUSINESS

- Request for covered bike racks – new capital expenditure idea for future school years.
- Request for portable tents on Oct 30th – portable tents – plunk on ground with frame and put covers over – we need a couple in case of rain – email or talk to Mme Gayton. Renee.Gayton@sd41.bc.ca

Meeting adjourned at 8:57 pm